

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 30 as indicated below. The status of all pending claims is as follows:

1-27 (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:

a first substrate and a second substrate sandwiching a liquid crystal layer therebetween,

said liquid crystal layer including liquid crystal molecules of p-type aligned in a first pointing direction generally perpendicular to said first and second substrates in a non-active state in which no electric field is applied to said liquid crystal layer;

a first polarizer disposed adjacent to said first substrate at a side opposite to a side of said first substrate facing said liquid crystal layer;

a second polarizer disposed adjacent to said second substrate at a side opposite to a side of said second substrate facing said liquid crystal layer;

a first electrode provided on said first substrate;

a second electrode provided on said second substrate,

said first and second electrodes forming an electric field acting therebetween in a direction oblique to said liquid crystal layer in an activated state in which a driving voltage is applied across said first and second electrodes, such that said liquid crystal molecules change

a pointing direction thereof from said first pointing direction toward a second pointing direction parallel to said first and second substrates, and

first and second retardation films respectively having a positive and a negative optical anisotropy, both disposed in at least one of a first gap formed between said first substrate and said first polarizer and a second gap formed between said second substrate and said second polarizer, wherein said first retardation film is closer to said liquid crystal layer than said second retardation film such that when viewed from said liquid crystal layer, said second retardation film is located outside of said first retardation film,

said liquid crystal display device changing a state thereof from said non-activated state to said activated state by causing a change in a direction of said liquid crystal molecules from said first pointing direction to said second pointing direction in response to said electric field formed between said first and second electrodes.

29. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device as claimed in claim 28, wherein said second electrode is located between two of said first electrodes when viewed in a direction perpendicular to said first and second substrates.

30. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device, comprising:
a first substrate and a second substrate sandwiching a liquid crystal layer therebetween,

said liquid crystal layer including liquid crystal molecules of p-type aligned in a first pointing direction generally perpendicular to said first and second substrates in a non-activated state in which no electric field is applied to said liquid crystal layer;

a first polarizer disposed adjacent to said first substrate at a side opposite to a side of said first substrate facing said liquid crystal layer;

a second polarizer disposed adjacent to said second substrate at a side opposite to a side of said second substrate facing said liquid crystal layer;

an optically biaxial retardation film disposed in at least one of a first gap formed between said first substrate and said first polarizer and a second gap formed between said second substrate and said second polarizer;

a first electrode provided on said first substrate; and

a second electrode provided on said second substrate,

said first electrode and said second electrode forming an electric field acting therebetween in a direction oblique to said liquid crystal layer in an activated state in which a driving voltage is applied across said first and second electrodes, such that said liquid crystal molecules change a pointing direction thereof from said first pointing direction toward a second pointing direction parallel to said first and second substrates,

said liquid crystal display device changing a state thereof from said non-activated state to said activated state by causing a change in a direction of said liquid crystal molecules from said first pointing direction to said second pointing direction in response to said electric field formed between said first and second electrodes: electrodes, and

said optically biaxial retardation film having a first refractive index in a direction perpendicular to said liquid crystal layer and second and third refractive indices in a plane parallel to said liquid crystal layer such that said first refractive index is smaller than both said second refractive index and said third refractive index.

31. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device as claimed in claim 30, wherein said second electrode is located between two of said first electrodes when viewed in a direction perpendicular to said first and second substrates.